Learn how modernizing OLG can benefit you. Visit ModernOLG.ca

LONDON metro®

$11,000,000 estimated
LOTTO 649
Tonight's Jackpot

HE'S BACK AND READY TO RUMBLE!

LONDON KNIGHTS STAR SETH GRIFFITH IS OFF THE INJURED LIST JUST IN TIME FOR THE PLAYOFFS PAGE 11

Sheer madness

Shares of Lululemon take a hit after a batch of yoga pants proved to be a little too revealing PAGE 4

Beach babe gone bad

The upcoming movie Spring Breakers is rude, crude and in your face — and star Ashley Benson wouldn't have it any other way PAGE 6

Reversal of Forte

A complete overhaul by former Audi design chief Peter Schreyer has the Kia Forte poised for a breakthrough PAGE 13

NEWS WORTH SHARING.

THE BIG PULL

Augustine Monteiro, a fourth-year student in Western University's commercial aviation management program, shows off his guns on Tuesday in front a CF-133 Silver Star jet trainer at the London airport. Monteiro, 22, has organized a Saturday fundraiser in which teams will pull the plane 100 metres. A minimum pledge of $10 per person is recommended. All money will be donated to the London Anti-Bullying Coalition. Email augustinemonteiro@gmail.com to register. MARK SPOWART/FOR METRO

Strike looming at defence plant?

General Dynamics. U.S.-owned defence contractor in final days of talks with CAW

MARK SPOWART
london@metronews.ca

About 600 Canadian Auto Workers could soon be on the picket line if contract talks with General Dynamics don't shape up fast.

The CAW has until midnight on Sunday to reach an agreement with the company, said Tim Carrie, president of CAW Local 27.

"We are far apart on some issues," he said. "General Dynamics is asking for a significant amount of concessions, and we are not prepared to accept."

Ken Yamishita, General Dynamics' manager of corporate affairs, confirmed negotiations are ongoing.

"It would not be appropriate to make any kind of comment at this time," he said.

The company employs nearly 2,400 workers at its Oxford Road East plant. About 25 per cent of them are represented by the CAW, Carrie said.

Union officials declined to release details of the talks or concessions that have been tabled.

Carrie characterized the negotiations as "tough."

"They have been tough on both sides," he said.

General Dynamics laid off 46 workers in December, less than a year after being awarded a contract to upgrade more than 600 vehicles for the Canadian Army. That contract is expected to be extended to 2025.

A labour dispute at the plant would rival one that saw about 450 CAW workers locked out of Electro-Motive Diesel for a month last year.

That feud — sparked when the union refused to sign a contract that would have seen pay cut by as much as 50 per cent — ended when the company, owned by American-based Caterpillar, pulled up stakes and moved jobs to the United States.

Profile

- General Dynamics Land Systems Canada is the primary supplier of the Canadian Armed Forces' LAVIII, a light-armoured vehicle.
- The company is owned by U.S.-based General Dynamics.
- It has been making military vehicles since the 1970s.

Easter Hunt *in the* City
- Hunt for all eight Citi Plaza stations and collect stamps to receive an Easter Goody Bag
- Meet the Easter Bunny (bring your own camera to capture the magic)
- Easter crafts, music, prizes, discounts and **more!**

Saturday, March 30
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Enjoy Easter with your family at Citi Plaza's **FREE** Easter Celebration!

Sponsored by: Today's Country BX93

CITI PLAZA
Work | Shop | Play | Dine | Learn
www.citiplazalondon.com

Ombudsman

Orser to call for Marin ouster

A London city councillor is planning to make a move that could see Ontario Ombudsman André Marin booted as the city's closed-meetings watchdog.

Coun. Orser
CONTRIBUTED

Coun. Stephen Orser says he'll table the motion after the ombudsman's office completes an investigation into a Feb. 23 luncheon gathering.

Marin's office started investigating after receiving complaints that Orser and six other councillors, including the mayor, got together days before a final vote on the 2013 budget.

Orser said he's told Marin's staff of his plan. If other councillors support Orser's bid, a new watchdog would be appointed.

"I have told the ombudsman investigators that I have a motion on my desk for that purpose," the councillor said Tuesday. "I welcome the investigation, will wait for the outcome and will make that motion."

Marin takes on too much of a public persona, Orser said.

"I believe an investigator should be neutral, not playing the media like a politician," he said.

Orser has started declining invitations to events where matters that may wind up before councillors could crop up. The fear, Orser said, is that such public appearances may spark more complaints to Marin.

The ombudsman cleared city politicians of wrongdoing after receiving complaints about a pre-budget luncheon last year.

MARK SPOWART/FOR METRO

Members of council's corporate services committee meet Tuesday at city hall to review 2012 spending by city councillors. MARK SPOWART/FOR METRO

Councillor's spending irks some colleagues

Taxpayer $$$. More oversight needed on how politicians are using expense accounts, Coun. Nancy Branscombe says

MARK SPOWART
london@metronews.ca

Coun. Dale Henderson came under attack Tuesday for spending taxpayers dollars to launch a webcast for constituents.

"Dale TV, I cannot tell you how disappointed I am about that," Coun. Nancy Branscombe said as council's corporate services committee reviewed politicians' expenses for 2012.

Councillors are allowed $15,000 in annual expenses, with reimbursement approved by the clerk's office and passed through council as a formality. Henderson used a portion of his expense budget — $7,000, Branscombe said — to get the webcast going.

"It is outrageous and unacceptable, and I don't ever want to see it on this paper again," Branscombe said.

She called Tuesday for a review of what should qualify as an allowable expense.

"If our regulations are so vague, then we need to review them, this is not a wise use of taxpayer dollars," she said.

Henderson was not at the meeting for the discussion, but Mayor Joe Fontana said councillors should have options when it comes to spending.

"How a council member decides to communicate with his constituents, is his choice," the mayor said.

"Whether they choose to use a mailer or technology to communicate, is up to that person."

Coun. Joe Swan said he's not interested in monitoring other councillors' expenses.

"They are elected to office, they have to act responsibly and determine how best to serve their constituents," Swan said. "We are (as a result of spending reports) transparent and accountable.

"We provide receipts and have to ensure there is proof of payment."

You pay your money...

"It is not a good use of taxpayers' money and it is our job to spend that money wisely." Coun. Nancy Branscombe

Have gun, won't travel. Texas skating fan held

A 72-year-old Texas man faced a lengthy delay in his flight home from the World Figure Skating Championships.

Joseph Frost was arrested Monday at the London airport after a loaded .357-calibre revolver was found in his carry-on luggage, police say. The weapon was detected by an X-ray machine, police said.

Frost was charged with careless storage of a firearm and remained in police custody until a Tuesday court appearance.

The charge

Careless storage of a firearm is an indictable offence punishable by up to two years behind bars for a first offence and up to five years for subsequent offences.

The Crown dropped the charge after reviewing the case.

Frost has returned home, police said. METRO

Western coping with student's death

First-year Western University student Noah Kishinevsky, 19, went missing Saturday evening. CONTRIBUTED

Students and staff at Western University are mourning the loss of a first-year student.

Following a two-day search, Noah Kishinevsky, 19, was found dead in his car at about 3:30 p.m. Monday, police said Tuesday.

The car was in a parking lot outside a Wonderland Road South apartment building. Police have ruled out foul play.

Counselling was being offered Tuesday at Saugeen-Maitland residence hall where Kishinevsky, who's not from London, lived.

Kishinevsky was reported missing Sunday, the day after he failed to show up for a downtown gathering with friends.

"This is the most tragic news that any university can deliver," Western vice-president Helen Connell said in a Tuesday message to students. "Our hearts go out to Noah's family at this most difficult time."

Details about a memorial will be relayed to the Western community according to the family's wishes, university officials said. JOHN MATISZ/METRO

Agra, India

Tourist leaps from window, fearing sexual assault

A British woman travelling in India jumped out of the third-floor window of her hotel room on Tuesday, telling police she feared a sexual attack after the hotel's owner tried to force his way in by offering her a free massage.

The woman suffered minor injuries, police officer Sushant Gaur said.

Police in Agra arrested the owner, Gaur said, but no charges have been filed.

The woman said the hotel owner even tried to unlock the door after she refused his offer. The owner told police he knocked because she had asked to be woken up.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Steubenville, Ohio

Coach, others may see charges in rape

The head football coach at Steubenville High School and the owners of a house where an infamous 12-minute video was filmed could be investigated as Ohio prosecutors look into how adults responded to allegations of rape last year.

State Attorney General Mike DeWine said Sunday he would consider charges against anyone who failed to speak up after the rape of a 16-year-old girl in August.

Authorities also proved they won't put up with people harassing the accuser, arresting two girls Monday suspected of threatening her on Facebook and Twitter on the weekend.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kelowna, B.C.

RCMP search for callous dog killer

Mounties in Kelowna, B.C., have picked up the case of a heartless SUV driver and a grieving pet owner.

Police are searching for the driver after an incident on Feb. 28, in which the man ran over a leashed dog being walked by its owner.

While it was apparent the dog's injuries were very serious, the man refused to transport the bleeding animal in his SUV. He also refused to give the owner any information but promised to bring a veterinarian.

The man drove away and did not return. The dog was eventually taken to a vet but died of its injuries the next day.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Magnotta collapses in courtroom

Hearing postponed. Alleged killer fell after watching disturbing video evidence in case

Luka Rocco Magnotta collapsed to the courtroom floor after seeing video evidence presented against him, forcing a postponement in his preliminary hearing Tuesday.

Magnotta appeared distraught as the video played in the courtroom. When it was over, the suspect in a notorious killing-and-dismemberment case asked for a break. He stood up and fell on his right side, crumpled into a fetal position at the feet of a prison guard.

The evidence in the gruesome case is temporarily subject to a publication ban. It could be made public if the case goes to trial.

Magnotta was not back in court when the afternoon session began at 2 p.m.

"He really doesn't feel well and he's not able to continue," his lawyer, Luc Leclair, said.

Judge Lori-Renee Weitzman said they could not continue without Magnotta present. She ordered the case suspended until Wednesday.

During the morning segment, Magnotta had held his hand over his mouth, as if he felt ill. His eyes were closed for much of the session. The 30-year-old appeared to wipe away tears several times.

Even the judge appeared to be affected by the evidence. She winced slightly at one point in the video. Some police investigators present in the courtroom stared away from the screen.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Charges

Luka Magnotta is charged with first-degree murder in the slaying of Jun Lin, a 33-year-old Concordia University student from China.

- **Absent.** Lin's parents were not in the courtroom Tuesday morning. His father has attended the preliminary hearing at times but has not stayed for the most graphic evidence.

Luka Rocco Magnotta in a Montreal court. MIKE MCLAUGHLIN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

He's no Canadian, but we'll say hello nonetheless

Pope Francis meets Gov. Gen. David Johnston and his wife, Sharon, after his installation mass at the Vatican on Tuesday. The Pope urged princes, presidents, sheikhs and thousands of ordinary people to protect God's creation, the weakest and the poorest of the world. L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO, HANDOUT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Manitoba. Mennonites sought parenting advice before assault charges laid

Leaders of an orthodox Mennonite community in Manitoba reached out for counselling and parenting advice before two members were charged with beating children with various weapons, including a whip and cattle prod.

Enos Bauman, 54, and his son Cleason Bauman, 29, face various counts of assault and assault with a weapon. The younger Bauman is also charged with assault causing bodily harm.

Court documents show the alleged offences involve seven children, boys and girls, dating back to July 2011.

The pair was arrested last week and released on bail under conditions that include avoiding the community.

Neither police nor the documents on file with the court have disclosed a motive.

Brad Reimer, a spokesman with the Mennonite Centre Committee of Manitoba, said Monday that leaders of the group came to Winnipeg last month and met with officials about "parenting concerns."

There was no followup, in part, because the community is so isolated. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Budget. Flaherty zeros in on three big priorities

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty is signalling he'll make skills training, modernizing the country's crumbling infrastructure and helping the manufacturing sector the key priorities in Thursday's budget.

In a letter to his caucus colleagues, the minister cautions that the economy remains fragile and faces strong competition from emerging nations.

Government ministers have long identified a missmatch between the jobs that are in demand and the skills being churned out by universities, colleges and training programs.

"There are too many jobs that go unfilled in Canada because employers can't find workers with the right skills," he writes in the letter.

Flaherty is also committing to "do more" on infrastructure. With stimulus construction projects now complete and the $8.8-billion Building Canada Fund about to expire, the minister is expected to announce an extension of the program.

And he is expected to renew the accelerated capital cost allowance, first introduced in 2007, that allows manufacturing firms a quicker writeoff for investments in machinery and equipment, thereby lowering their tax bill. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Low-cost laptops

Google brings Chromebook to Canada

Google is continuing its march into the hardware business with a brand of cheap laptops designed for using the web — and not much else. On Tuesday, the Internet giant announced its Chromebook concept was finally available in Canada, more than a year after being released in the U.S. and other countries.

Chromebooks look like standard laptops but don't come loaded with a version of Windows or a Mac operating system. They run on Google's Chrome OS, a streamlined platform with the web browser as the main attraction. They're being pushed as a low-cost device — they start at about $250 — for users who spend most of their time on a computer using the Internet. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Need a laugh? Don't miss
MOM'S THE WORD
FOR CRYING OUT LOUD
The Grand Theatre
MAR 19 - APR 6
519.672.8800
grandtheatre.com

A Clinical Research Opportunity for People with GOUT FLARES
GOUT
research study enrolling now
A research study near you may offer a no-cost investigational drug for GOUT if you qualify.
No-cost study-related care.
Compensation up to $1,000 may be available.
Call 866-785-2186
or visit www.GoutStudyInformation.com

Cyprus votes down levy on bank deposits

EU financial crisis. While protesters cheer move by Parliament, international bailout is now left in disarray

Cypriot lawmakers have rejected a critical draft bill that would have seized part of people's bank deposits in order to qualify for a vital international bailout.

The bill, which had been amended Tuesday morning to shield small deposit holders from the deposit tax, was rejected with 36 votes against, 19 abstentions and zero votes in favour. One deputy was absent.

Hundreds of protesters outside Parliament cheered in jubilation and sang the national anthem when they heard the bill had not passed.

Cyprus will now have to come up with an alternative plan to raise the money.

If it doesn't, it won't qualify for external rescue loans, the country's banks face collapse and the country could go bankrupt.

The plan to seize bank deposits was part of a larger bailout package being negotiated with other European countries. It was met with fury in Cyprus and sent jitters across financial markets. Had the bill passed, banks in Cyprus had planned to stay shut until Thursday to prevent a bank run.

Although Cyprus is the smallest eurozone country to be bailed out, the proposal marked the first time savers' bank accounts were to be directly targeted. Other bailed out countries such as Greece, Ireland and Portugal have raised funds by imposing new taxes. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR 97.37¢ (-0.45¢)

Natural gas: $3.96 US (+8¢)
Dow Jones: 14,455.82 (+3.76)

TSX 12,773.87 (-7.89)

OIL $92.16 US (-$1.58)

GOLD $1,611.30 US (+$6.70)

Sheer oversight. Lululemon recalling black pants that reveal too much yoga butt

A woman carries a purchase out of the Lululemon store in Vancouver's Kitsilano neighbourhood. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Shares in Lululemon Athletica Inc. closed down $1.76 to $65.74 on the Toronto Stock Exchange Tuesday, after the clothing maker recalled some of its black yoga pants because they were too see-through and warned that the move would hurt sales.

RBC Capital Markets analyst Howard Tubin noted it was the second product-related issue the company has had this year.

"Combine this with the problems they had with red and pink garments earlier this year and bears could start to weave a narrative that Lululemon is consistently encountering execution issues while growing," Tubin wrote in a note to investors, referring to problems with bleeding in some of Lululemon's coloured clothing.

The retailer pulled its popular black Luon yoga pants from store shelves because the material used to make them was too sheer, showing off too much of their customers' assets. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEING A VICTIM OF MARRIAGE FRAUD IS NO PIECE OF CAKE

If your new overseas love seems more interested in Canada than you — you could be a victim of marriage fraud.

Victims are left abandoned, still financially responsible for their spouse for three years.

Sometimes marriage is a scam to jump the immigration line. That's why the Government of Canada is enforcing new consequences for those guilty of committing fraud. Don't be a victim.

For more information, visit immigration.gc.ca/fraud

Citizenship and Immigration Canada | Citoyenneté et Immigration Canada

Canada

THUMBS DOWN — STOP TEXTING

JUST SAYIN'

Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

I think we're texting ourselves to death.

I was reading a story by a relationship therapist who claimed that Canadians text eight billion messages a month.

The point was something like: "How can anyone have a relationship when there's all that texting going on?"

That seemed like a lot to me, so I went to the Internet and did some research. No matter how you slice it, the guy's right. We do a terrific — or is that terrible — amount of texting.

According to one source, we send 227 million text messages a day or 10 million an hour. Another says Canadians send 2,500 messages a second for a total of 78 billion a year. While we're throwing around numbers, that comes to about 10 a day per subscriber.

In the U.S., according to the Pew Internet & American Life Project, the average user sends 40 messages a day, but young Americans 18-24 send or receive 109.5 messages a day.

It's easy to conclude we're all thumbs.

These numbers correspond to my anecdotal survey: nine times out of 10, wherever I go, everyone else is looking down. I'm the only one looking up.

I've tried to pretend to look down and be like everyone else, but my heart's not really in it. I have to admit I'm tired of texting, tired of tweeting, tired of email, tired of not talking to other people.

Other people are actually pretty interesting, but only if you can get them not texting. They are also not very interesting if their fingers creep toward their smartphone (41 per cent of Canadians say they keep their cellphone in reach at all times), nor are they interesting when they try to talk to you and text at the same time (18 per cent. At least they're trying).

It starts to get interesting when they try to drive and text at the same time, but not in a good way. An editor at Car and Driver found that it took longer to stop when he was texting than when he was legally drunk — an extra 70 feet, which is enough to drive you straight into the nearest tree.

So here I am texting you and here you are reading this text. Whoops.

I hope you find this text interesting. I hope it encourages you to put away your smartphone and look up.

Perhaps you're not driving into the back end of the car in front of you at this very moment. Bonus. That means it's not too late to put the phone away and start relating to other people, e.g. spouse, parents, friends, colleagues, perfect strangers. It doesn't matter. They've been so busy texting, none of them will recognize you anyway.

Start small. Smile. Remember? That's something you do with your face, not your thumbs.

ZOOM

Hole-y, what a church

Empty building a sign of the times

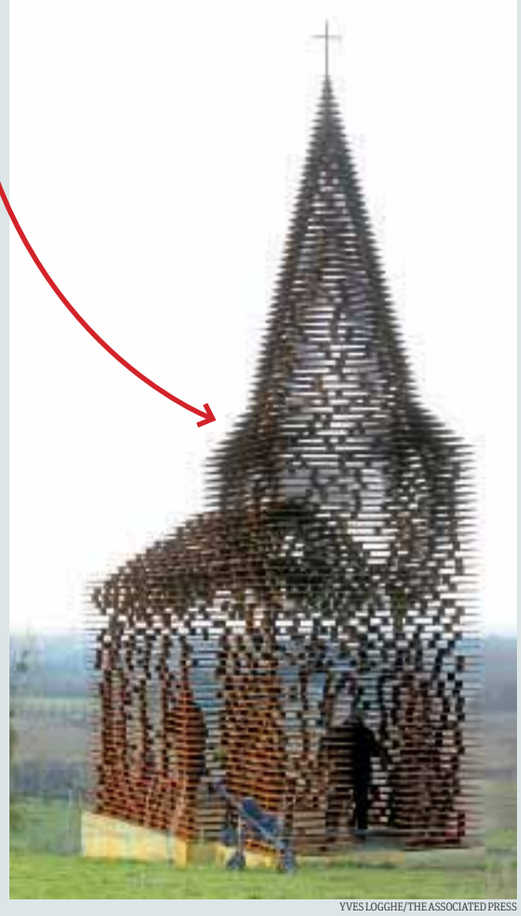
A see-through church on a hilltop in Borgloon, 80 kilometres east of Brussels is seen.

The artistic vision of the church is made of rusty steel beams separated by gaps, and its austere beauty won it an international architecture prize. Yet the eerie desolation of the see-through installation has also turned into a reflection on the state of Roman Catholicism on a religion-weary continent where real churches, like the dozen dotting the hills of this verdant area, increasingly lose their flock and function. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Interest across Europe crumbles like a wafer

Across large swaths of Europe, empty pews and empty pulpits are the stark reality of centuries-old churches in a continent where, not so long ago, the village spire was the main point of reference for society.

Pope Francis faces a daunting array of challenges, and one of them is bringing souls back to the historic heartland of the Catholic Church. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



YVES LOGGHE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

For example

- For signs of this decline, look no further than Paris, at the famed Notre Dame Cathedral.
- On Pope Francis' installation day, thousands of tourists easily outnumbered less than 200 worshippers in the pews, even as the ceremony on St. Peter's Square was televised inside.
- Many churches have been turned into restaurants and shops, or even demolished, often given a new function in society never intended by those who originally built them.

Lean structure wins award

It is this disappearing act that gave Pieterjan Gijs, of the Gijs Van Vaerenbergh architecture firm, ideas.

The Borgloon art installation's layered structure allows visitors to see right through it, and this evanescence gives it a double layer of beauty and philosophical depth. It won the 2012 prize for best religious building by the website Arch Daily. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Clickbait

ANDREW FIFIELD
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

Oh, sure, you'd love to come up with a blog idea so irresistible that smirking Photoshoppers can't help but flood your inbox with submissions. But how to get that precise mixture of clever yet simple?

Well, all you need is an hour in a quiet room with a list of magazine titles and a rhyming dictionary. It works like a charm.

Just ask whoever came up with Thumbs & Ammo, where guns are swapped with a cheery thumbs up and "real tough guys don't need guns, they just need a positive, can-do attitude."

thumbsandammo.blogspot.com

Twitter

@metropicks asked: Lululemon halted sales of black yoga pants for being too sheer. What clothing would you like to never be sold again?

@JennBarker82: Crocs - every colour every style!

@MEdingerReMax: acid bleached jeans, bell bottoms, corsets, and rugby pants

@Ketchum_All: Anything Ed Hardy..

@alangdon17: crocs, horrible horrible.

@bandrews14: suit jackets with shoulder pads. Who ever thought that shoulder pads was a good idea, or belonged outside of hockey or football

@DariaTuhtar: Cheap flip flops. I don't want to see your disgusting foot-shaped grime and sweat stains.

@CatBourque: clothing that droops below butt cheeks....

@duizerbarbie: was at Forever 21—acid wash jean shirt!–some things from the 80's should never come back

@Gnarlli: they WHAT?

@PengoMommy: Leggings with prints that are in stores right now. Unless you are under 12 or a stick you can't get away with it.

Follow @metropicks and take part in our daily poll.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU:
Send us your comments: londonletters@metronews.ca

metro

President: Bill McDonald • **Vice-President & Group Publisher, Metro Eastern Canada** Greg Lutes • **Editor-in-Chief** Charlotte Empey • **Deputy Editor** Fernando Carneiro • **National Deputy Editor, Digital** Quin Parker • **Managing Editor, London** Jim Reyno • **Managing Editor, News & Business** Amber Shortt • **Managing Editor, Life & Entertainment** Dean Lisk • **Distribution Manager** Rob Delvallet • **Vice-President, Sales and Business Development** Tracy Day • **Vice-President, Creative** Jeff Smith • **Vice-President, Finance** Phil Jameson • **METRO LONDON** • 350 Talbot Street Main Floor London ON N6A 2R6 • **Telephone:** 519-434-3556 • **Fax:** 888-474-3094 • **Advertising:** 519-434-3556 Ext. 2222 • adinfolondon@metronews.ca • **Distribution:** london_distribution@metronews.ca • **News tips:** london@metronews.ca • **Letters to the Editor:** londonletters@metronews.ca

Tina Fey's latest project has her starring alongside Paul Rudd in the movie Admission. HANDOUT

Fey's decade of comic clout

New movie. From SNL to a best-selling book to hit movies and a sitcom, the female comedian continues to break new ground

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

Tina Fey regularly appears on the Forbes' annual Celebrity 100 list of the most powerful celebrities. She's made the Entertainment Weekly roll call of Entertainers of the Year and Time called her one of the most influential people in the world. Did I mention she's also really funny?

For nine years on Saturday Night Live she worked behind the scenes — as the show's first female head writer — and on camera as the anchor of Weekend Update.

"She might be the best Weekend Update anchor who ever did it," said Dennis Miller. "She writes the funniest jokes"

Then came 30 Rock, the medium-rated but critically adored sitcom, a best selling book and a celebrated impersonation of Sarah Palin that even got the thumbs up from the ex-Governor.

This weekend she's on the big screen in Admission, a comedy co-starring Paul Rudd. She plays a Princeton admissions officer who thinks one of her new recruits is the son she gave up for adoption years ago.

Fey made her film debut a decade ago in the quirky comedy Martin & Orloff as part of an ensemble cast that included SNLers Amy Poehler and Rachel Dratch.

That movie didn't garner much attention, and her role of Southern Woman even less, but in 2004 she shortened the unwieldy title Queen Bees and Wannabes: Helping Your Daughters Survive Cliques, Gossip, Boyfriends, and Other Realities of Adolescence to Mean Girls. The story of high school in-groups was a hit and launched the careers of Rachel McAdams and Amanda Seyfried.

A comedienne

"She might be the best Weekend Update anchor who ever did it. She writes the funniest jokes."

Dennis Miller
Talking about Tina Fey.

She co-starred in Mean Girls as math teacher Ms. Norbury and made on-screen appearances as Front Desk Girl in Beer League but got her name over the title in Baby Mama.

She played Kate, a single 37-year-old businesswoman so desperate to have a baby she hires Angie, an inappropriate South Philly wild child (Amy Poehler) to be her surrogate.

Next was the stranded-in-big-bad-New-York-City movie Date Night opposite Steve Carell.

The movie wouldn't be as enjoyable as it is without the two leads. Fey and Carell breathe life into a hackneyed situation, bringing not only likeability, but also great chemistry and a way with a line that really works.

In the animated Megamind she voiced intrepid girl reporter Roxanne Ritchi, kidnapped by the master of all villainy Megamind (voice of Will Ferrell) and next year she stars with Ricky Gervais in The Muppets … again.

Hate Spring Breakers? Benson doesn't care

Interview. Ashley Benson unfazed by backlash to Disney stars kicking it up a notch in party flick

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

Ashley Benson, the Pretty Little Liars star, makes the jump to film in the most attention-grabbing way she can: alongside Selena Gomez and Vanessa Hudgens as coeds gone bad in Harmony Korine's Spring Breakers. The film finds the girls' characters knocking over a diner to fund a wild week in Florida, ending up in jail and bedding down with a crazed, gun-toting, drug-slinging amateur rapper named Alien (James Franco).

And you know what? Benson likes that you may hate this movie.

There's a lot of noise surrounding it, about the content and the Disney backgrounds of your co-stars. When you're at the centre of this kind of storm, how do you deal with it?
I don't really listen to it. Harmony just wanted people to be left with a feeling, and if they're horrified, that's amazing, if they loved it, that's even better. So I like when people hate the movie because it's like, wow we really affected you and you're really disturbed, and that's great.

"Just pretend it's a video game" stands out as a particularly telling line of dialogue.
Well, that wasn't actually in the script. The script was more descriptive and very visual, very little dialogue. (Korine) said to pick out three scenes from the movie (for the audition), and each scene maybe had two lines. It was more of just visually what people looked like, what the girls were wearing, that they would dance, that they would play with guns, that they would have this love scene with Alien. And that's what made the movie so brilliant, because half the things were made up on the spot two minutes before we shot or it was improvised.

This is a great way to start a film career. Where do you go from here, movie-wise?
I think I want to do another one like this. I want to work with a director who's kind of like Harmony.

Ashley Benson could care less if you don't like her new movie Spring Breakers. HANDOUT

Sofia Vergara ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Vergara freezing her eggs

Sofia Vergara takes planning for the future very, very seriously. "I have to be careful what I eat because they're freezing my eggs," the 40-year-old Modern Family star tells Vogue, adding that she's currently taking hormone pills. "After that it is hormone injections. They want to get as many good eggs as they can because usually you produce them but they're not good. They have to be perfect, perfect, perfect ones. My boyfriend is 37, younger than me, never had kids. So."

Twitter

@ricky_martin
sometimes you just have to stop thinking so much and simply go with your heart. PERIOD. Have an awesome day every1!

@RealMichelleT
I'm off to slay some dragons

@MarkDuplass
I kinda miss walking around the video store in a state of utter confusion.

@justinbieber
good night Paris. je t'aime

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Who is the father of Michael Jackson's children?

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

For years, I've gazed upon the children of Michael Jackson and wondered: "Are they really his kids?" What trips me up is that they kind of look like him, but only after he underwent his radical plastic surgery.

But then I remember that if he were still alive and "unadulterated," Jackson should look a lot more like Tito and a lot less like LaToya. I guess what I'm trying to clumsily say is that even with a white mother, Blanket, Paris and Prince should look more like a young Michael and a lot less like the crypt keeper he became. Also, holy cats: What a crazy family.

Anyway, it's looking more and more like MJ is not the father of his children (I knew it! Kind of!). According to TMZ, in their nasty wrongful death lawsuit against AEG Live (Katharine Jackson and Blanket, Paris and Prince are suing the entertainment giant for $40 billion for the negligent hiring and supervision of Dr. Conrad Murray during preparation for Jackson's This Is It tour), his family is asking to exclude any evidence of the true paternity of Jackson's children.

I'm unsure why the paternity would be entered into evidence — I'm far from a legal scholar — but the fact the Jackson family is trying to block this is telling.

Also, if the Jacksons do prevail against AEG, I hope they use some of those billions for therapy for those poor kids. Because even the best therapist in the land (Dr. Phil, duh) cannot go there.

Guess who's going back to rehab

Lindsay Lohan is heading back to rehab. After reaching a deal with Judge James Dabney relating to her car crash last June, Lohan entered a guilty plea to giving false information to an officer, reckless driving and violating her probation, according to TMZ.

Lohan was offered 90 days in jail but is allowed to serve out that sentence in a locked rehab facility. She is also on the hook for 30 days of community service, 18 months of psychotherapy, plus she has to pay fines and restitution to the victim in the car accident.

"This is it," Dabney told Lohan at the hearing. "You violate your probation, and we are not going to have this conversation about putting you back on probation." He also offered her some personal advice: "Don't drive," he said.

Lindsay Lohan

FROM STEPHENIE MEYER THE AUTHOR OF THE TWILIGHT SAGA
CHOOSE TO BELIEVE.
CHOOSE TO FIGHT. CHOOSE TO LOVE.
THE HOST
WRITTEN FOR THE SCREEN AND DIRECTED BY ANDREW NICCOL
03.29.13
You could WIN
a run of engagement pass for two to see
THE HOST
In Theatres March 29
One lucky winner will also take home a copy of THE HOST novel signed by Stephenie Meyer!
VISIT clubmetro.com TO ENTER
To register and for full contest details visit clubmetro.com
Don't forget to like us on Facebook! facebook.com/clubmetrolondon
e one

LIFE 3

Is Albuquerque's tourism industry Breaking Bad?

Drug-induced dilemma. New Mexico city is profiting from visitors scoping out sites from hit TV series, but is it a rep they want to promote?

A fast-food burrito chain in Albuquerque has become an international tourist attraction as people come from all over the world to see the spot where a fictional drug trafficker runs his organization. A pastry shop sells doughnuts topped with blue candy designed to resemble crystal meth. A beauty store has a similar product — crystal blue bathing salts.

As Breaking Bad finishes filming its fifth and final season in Albuquerque, the popularity of the show is providing a boost to the economy and creating a dilemma for local tourism officials as they walk the fine line of profiting from a show that centres around drug trafficking, addiction and violence. Breaking Bad follows the fictional character Walter White, a high school chemistry teacher turned meth lord.

Albuquerque has seen an unexpected jump in tourists visiting popular sites from the show and local businesses cashing in on its popularity. Tourists are also flocking to sites that before the show were unknown and unimportant — the suburban home of White, played by Bryan Cranston, a car wash that is a front for a money-laundering operation on the series, a rundown motel used frequently for filming and the real-life burrito joint, which is a fast food chicken restaurant on the show. The Albuquerque Convention & Visitors Bureau has even created a website of the show's most popular places around town to help tourists navigate, and ABQ Trolley Company sold out all its "BaD" tours last year at $60 a ticket.

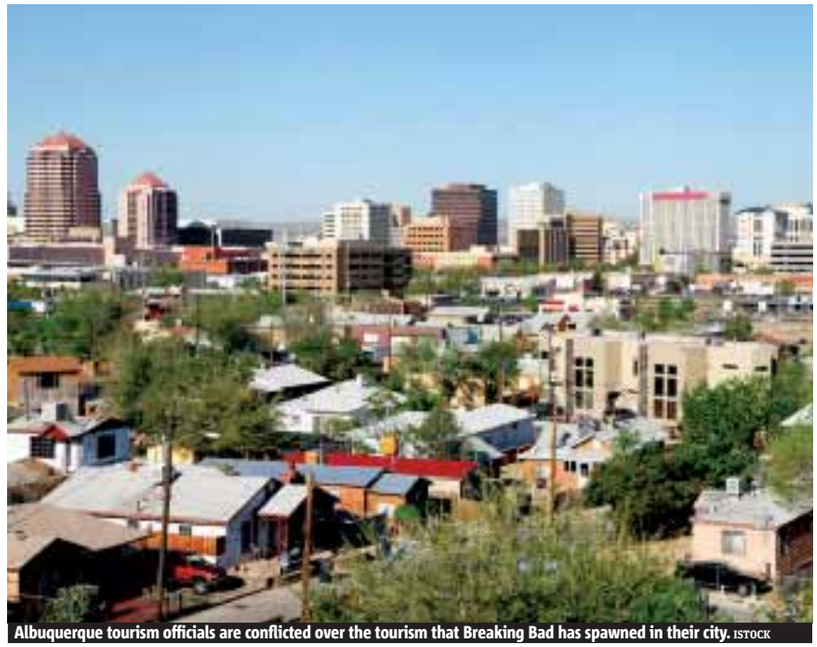
"They ask if they can take pictures. They ask if Gus is here," said Rachel Johnson, 19, a shift manager at the Twisters burrito restaurant in Albuquerque's South Valley, referring to the show's character Gus Fring, played by actor Giancarlo Esposito. The eatery has served as the location for the Los Pollos Hermanos restaurant where Fring runs his drug operation.

Tourism officials and business owners are quick to point out that they are walking a fine line in trying not to promote the dark themes from Breaking Bad. But their pride in the show taking place in Albuquerque — and the money that it brings in — is often enough to offset their concerns.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

If you go...

- **Albuquerque Breaking Bad locations.** itsatrip.org/albuquerque/arts/breaking-bad-in-albuquerque.aspx offers map for self-guided tours and other information from the Albuquerque Convention & Visitors Bureau.



Albuquerque tourism officials are conflicted over the tourism that Breaking Bad has spawned in their city. ISTOCK

Debbie Ball, 60, owner of The Candy Lady store in Albuquerque, displays her new line of "meth candy." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bryan Cranston as Walter White, left, and Aaron Paul as Jesse Pinkman in a scene from Breaking Bad. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AMERICAN EXPRESS SALES POSITIONS AVAILABLE
AT ALLIANCE ICOMMUNICATIONS

Alliance iCommunications is a successful London based call centre. We are hiring Outbound Sales Professionals; you will be responsible for providing exceptional sales support and service.

Position Qualifications:
- Proficient computer/keyboarding skills (Windows based environment)
- Minimum High School Diploma
- Criminal background check required

Please Apply to:
Fax: (519) 667-1771 or
recruiting@allianceicomm.com or
www.allianceicomm.com

JOB FAIR
Sat. March 23, 9am-1pm, In front of the Goodlife entrance in the Citi Plaza
Wed. March 27, 5pm-7pm at Alliance in the Citi Plaza, 2nd floor, unit 225
Alliance Growing Business Together
Bring Your Resumes

FOREST CITY WRAPS
WRAPS THAT PRODUCE RESULTS!
Come visit us at
THE SPEED AND CUSTOM CAR SHOW
this weekend!
We'll be doing a LIVE WRAP DEMO!
www.forestcitywraps.com 519.680.3232

Spring into healthy eating habits with Greek Yogurt Chicken Salad

Skip the bread and opt for lettuce leaves instead. MAIJA MOMENTS OF YUMMYMUMMYCLUB.CA

MAIJA MOMENTS
YummyMummyClub.ca

While I am all for deli-style chicken salad sandwiches on thick slices of white bread, sometimes the part of my brain that reminds me I need to be eating a little bit healthier pipes up and insists that some dishes can be made with health in mind.

It turns out, this recipe for Greek Yogurt Chicken Salad is as yummy as the original and can be made even healthier by using it in Chicken Salad Lettuce Wraps.

I also have to admit that I'll eat this stuff out of a bowl on its own, over rice or spread on toast. It's that yummy!

1. In a bowl, add chicken, celery, cucumber and cilantro.

2. Mix in Greek yogurt, Dijon mustard, and avocado until combined.

3. Place equal amounts of cabbage onto each lettuce leaf and top with chicken salad. Roll and enjoy!

YUMMYMUMMYCLUB.CA IS AN ONLINE RESOURCE TO HELP BUSY WOMEN SURVIVE MOTHERHOOD

Ingredients

- 2 cups cooked chicken, shredded
- 1 rib celery, chopped
- 4 slices cucumber, chopped
- 1-2 tbsp fresh cilantro, chopped
- 1/2 cup plain Greek yogurt
- 1 tbsp Dijon mustard
- 1/2 avocado, peeled, pit removed, sliced and tossed in 1/2 tsp lemon or lime juice if desired (the bottled kind is fine)
- 1 cup shredded cabbage
- 6 lettuce leaves suitable for wraps

Drink of the Week

Blueberry-Mango Smoothie

This smoothie combines antioxidant-rich blueberries with mangos for a refreshing treat that is ready to enjoy in a few minutes.

- 1/4 cup (60 ml) plain soy milk
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) plain low-fat yogurt
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) frozen unsweetened blueberries
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) peeled cubed mango
- 1 packet Pure Via zero calorie sweetener
- 1 to 2 ice cubes

Place soy milk, yogurt, blueberries, mango and sweetener in blender container. Blend on medium speed until smooth. Add ice cubes and continue to blend until smooth. Pour in tall glass and serve.

NEWS CANADA

Spinach, Strawberry & Goat Cheese Sandwich

Many people are familiar with salads containing spinach, strawberries and goat cheese, so why not turn this combination into a delicious sandwich as well?

Sandwiches are a smart way to get all of your daily nutrients. Did you know that bread has naturally occurring vitamins and minerals similar to fruits and vegetables?

Baked with simple, wholesome ingredients like those found in your kitchen, this sandwich is healthy, unique and delicious.

Nothing tastes more like warm weather (it is, after all, the first day of spring) than the flavour of sweet strawberries. And this nutritious sandwich, inspired by Canadian-grown fresh, seasonal produce, captures it all.

1. Divide goat cheese and spinach between 2 slices of toast. Top with berries, drizzle with balsamic vinegar and season with salt and pepper.

2. Top with remaining slices of toast to form sandwiches. Slice in half and serve immediately.

NEWS CANADA/ NATURALLYDEMPSTERS.CA

Ingredients

- 1/3 cup (80 ml) crumbled goat cheese
- 2 cups (500 ml) baby spinach leaves
- 4 Slices Dempster's WholeGrains 12 Grain Bread, toasted
- 1 cup (250 ml) sliced strawberries
- Balsamic vinegar to drizzle
- Salt and pepper

This recipe serves two. NEWS CANADA

Assist without getting dismissed

To annoy is to destroy. Five easy ways to upsell at your retail job without being pushy

CHRISTINA PELLEGRINI
TalentEgg.ca

You've probably dealt with pushy retail salespeople before.

The ones who make you feel uncomfortable because they keep asking you to buy stuff even though you've said you're not interested more than once.

You know what I'm talking about, right? Perfect, you know how it feels and you know that it usually sends people searching for the nearest exit.

So, if you work in retail, don't be anything like that.

The challenge is that store management expects you to sell more products, maintain certain performance metrics and put more cash into the store's till. You can do this without begging customers to buy and spend more by offering them related products or services.

The pathway you take to the checkout counter can present upselling opportunities too. If you're helping someone with frames, for example, show them to the hardware aisle before they leave the store. ISTOCK

The guy taking your order at the drive-thru does this all the time by asking you if you'd like fries with your hamburger. Most of the time you say no. But sometimes, you say yes. That's how you get people to buy and spend more. It's called upselling.

Effective upselling requires patience, detailed observation, resilience and some skill.

Get a few more dollars out of your customers by following these five upselling tips:

Get them talking

People love talking about themselves. In my experience, the better the conversation, the longer a customer stays in the store, the more they tend to spend and the greater the chance they'll become a repeat customer.

Conversation helps build a relationship, showcases your product knowledge and makes the customer feel like you're their friend instead of a salesperson.

How, though?

Ask open-ended questions

Get your customers talking by asking them open-ended questions. You don't want their response to be "yes" or "no" because you can't learn anything about them, how they plan to use the product or how much they're able to spend.

This process will reveal products or services that the customers didn't intend to buy.

If you're selling athletic footwear, for example, try asking questions like:

Happy ending

Close the sale the way you started it

Remember how bubbly and friendly you were when the customer walked into the store? Act the same way throughout the entire transaction, tell them your name and don't forget to thank them for shopping at your store before they leave.

- What are you planning to use your shoes for?
- How much are you willing to spend?
- Tell me about your current pair of running shoes.

Suggest products your customers need

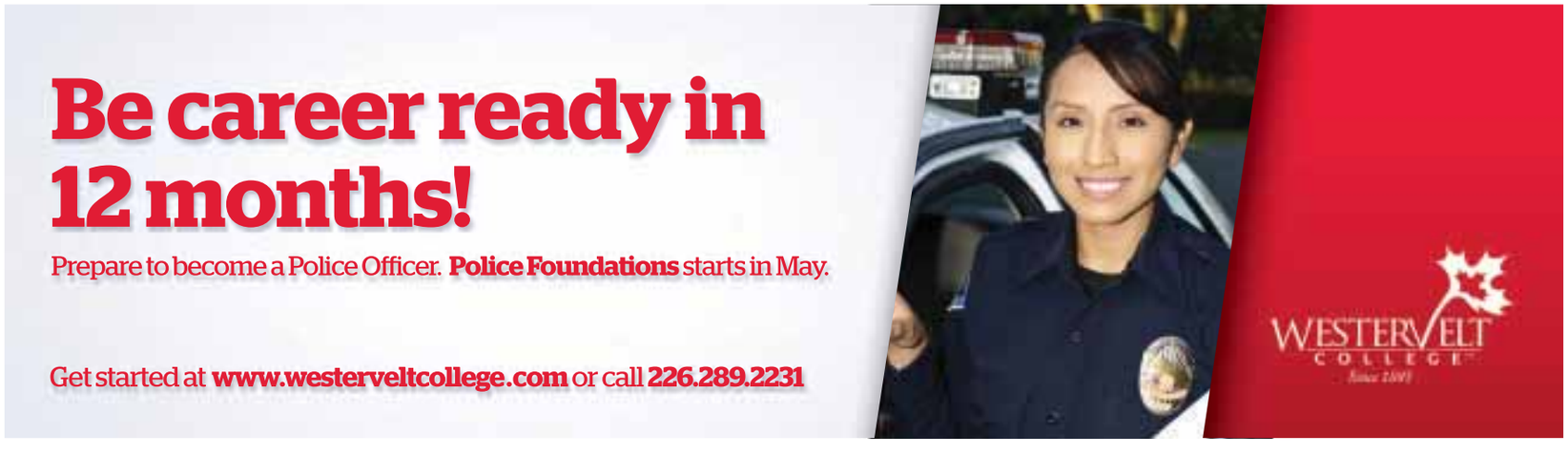
The answers to your open-ended questions will help you suggest products the customer might need to solve a problem they expressed during your conversation. If you're suggesting a more expensive product than the one they came to the store to purchase, always explain its features, benefits and why this product is better suited to fulfil their needs.

Not every upselling story has a happy ending.

How you handle rejection can send a message to the customer about how genuine your recommendations really were.

TALENTEGG.CA IS CANADA'S LEADING JOB SITE AND ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES.

Career Training
Become an Addictions and Community Services Worker
Train for a career at:
• Child, youth and family social service agencies
• Group homes
• Correctional and community mental health centres
• Facilities for the physically and developmentally handicapped
Everest COLLEGE
Call Now for More Information!
1-866-777-8365
www.EverestToday.ca
London
(Citi Plaza, 2nd Floor, corner of Wellington & York)
Everest College is the largest private career college in Ontario with more than 9,000 enrolments annually.
Programs and schedules vary by campus. Financial assistance may be available for those who qualify. Career services assistance available to graduates. Morning and afternoon classes available.


Be career ready in 12 months!
Prepare to become a Police Officer. Police Foundations starts in May.
Get started at www.westerveltcollege.com or call 226.289.2231
WESTERVELT COLLEGE

NHL

Malkin hopes to suit up this week

Pittsburgh Penguins centre Evgeni Malkin skated with his teammates on Tuesday morning and is hopeful he can return to the lineup later this week.

The reigning NHL MVP has missed Pittsburgh's last five games with an undisclosed upper body injury. He worked out by himself then joined the rest of the Penguins for a morning skate, though he was ruled out for Tuesday night's game against Washington.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

James' Ohio visit overshadowed by win streak

LeBron James and the Miami Heat are about to play another game in Cleveland.

Yawn.

LeBron James
GETTY IMAGES

That's what a 23-game winning streak will do.

It mutes the LeBron-Goes-Home-Again hype.

But after gutting out a win in Boston on Monday night and what lies ahead, it may no longer be farfetched to think that the record of 33 straight victories set by the 1971-72 Los Angeles Lakers is within Miami's grasp.

"It means a lot," James said after the Boston game. "I know the history of the game. To be sitting in second place right now ... for us to be there and doing it in the way we want to do it, it means a lot." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

London Knights sniper Seth Griffith, set to return to the lineup in time for Friday's playoff opener against the Saginaw Spirit, dekes out goalie Jake Patterson during a Tuesday practice at the Western Fair Sports Centre. JOHN MATISZ/METRO

Griffith returning to Knights for playoffs

OHL. With things about to get hairy, star sniper set to return for playoff clash with Saginaw

JOHN MATISZ
john.matisz@metronews.ca

Seth Griffith is saying bye-bye to one beard and hello to another.

Griffith, the backbone of the London Knights offence, will be in the lineup Friday when the team kicks off a first-round playoff series with the Saginaw Spirit. He's been sidelined with a broken bone in his right hand since Feb. 10.

Thanks to the medical clearance, the 20-year-old Wallaceburg native plans to retire the "injury beard" he's been growing and start a new one for the playoffs.

"You can practise all you want, but once you get back into a game it's totally different," Griffith said about getting back on the ice. "I'm just going to go out there, get a couple of hits, get a feel for the game. It's been a while."

Removing captain Scott Harrington's name from the disabled list is proving more difficult.

Knights assistant general manager Rob Simpson said Harrington, one of the league's best defenders, is considered day-to-day and "questionable" for a Friday suit up.

Harrington has been watching from the stands since Feb. 24 with an upper body injury.

"It's no fun," Harrington, 20, said. "You just have to be patient, and hopefully I'll be back as soon as possible."

The Knights own home ice advantage throughout the post-season, meaning the Spirit are in town for Games 1 and 2, along with 5 and 7, if necessary.

Gritty London forward Matt Rupert is ineligible to play in the opener. He will be serving the last of a 10-game suspension.

Who starts in goal?

London goalie coach Bill Dark hinted Tuesday the coaching staff hadn't landed on a Game 1 starter yet.

- The smart money is on Anthony Stolarz.
- The Jackson, N.J., native has posted a .920 save percentage and 13-3-1-1 record in 20 games this season.

Leafs take shackles off D-man Gardiner

Jake Gardiner skates with the Leafs on Jan. 18 at the Air Canada Centre. The Leafs called up the young blue-liner Tuesday. DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The Toronto Maple Leafs recalled defenceman Jake Gardiner from the American Hockey League on Tuesday.

"Congrats Jake Gardiner on #NHL call up to #Leafs from #Marlies! Jake was getting ready to play #AHL tonight in Lake Erie," Gardiner's agent Ben Hankinson posted on his Twitter account Tuesday.

Leafs general manager Dave Nonis confirmed the move during an interview on Sportsnet Radio in Toronto.

The call-up came one week after Hankinson caused a stir after tweeting "#FreeJakeGardiner" shortly after the Leafs looked lacklustre in a 5-2 road loss to Winnipeg.

He had a productive rookie season with the Maple Leafs in 2011-12, scoring seven goals and adding 30 assists. But he has been limited to just two games with the Leafs this year as he initially struggled to recover from a concussion he suffered playing with the Marlies during the NHL lockout.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

By the numbers

31

Jake Gardiner has made a case for a call-up this season, posting 10 goals and 21 assists for 31 points in 43 games with the Marlies.

4 SPORTS

Diamond pitches 'smooth' spring-training debut

MLB. Ontario native laments missing WBC, but looks forward to upcoming season

Just three months after undergoing surgery to remove bone chips from his throwing elbow, Minnesota Twins pitcher Scott Diamond is well on the road to recovery.

The Guelph native made his spring training debut Monday, pitching two innings of one-hit, three-strikeout ball against a group of Red Sox minor-leaguers.

He says he couldn't be happier with his first outing.

"I was actually a little nervous — first time taking the mound — but it felt smooth," Diamond said. "I was able to keep the ball down for the most part and get ahead of hitters, which is my game plan."

He faced seven Red Sox farmhands, throwing 17 of 23 pitches for strikes.

Just three months after undergoing surgery to remove bone chips from his throwing elbow, Minnesota Twins pitcher Scott Diamond, of Guelph, is nearing recovery. JOHN SMIERCIAK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Though he's used to far stiffer competition, having spent last season and some of 2011 in Minnesota, Diamond was proud of what he was able to accomplish Monday.

And with only two weeks left of spring training, the southpaw is confident he'll be able to make his projected start date — April 12 at Target Field.

"We've monitored everything very closely and it's been a pretty smooth ride," the 26-year-old said. "If everything can continue like it did today, (starting on April 12) isn't going to be a problem."

Though his recovery has been relatively easy, the young pitcher wishes it could have been quicker.

Dubbed a "good Canadian guy," by Twins first baseman and New Westminster, B.C., native Justin Morneau, Diamond would have loved to represent his nation alongside his teammate at the World Baseball Classic.

"It was really difficult for me to sit out," Diamond said. "Even before I had the surgery I knew I wouldn't be ready on time, so making that phone call to Greg Hamilton (Baseball Canada's director of national teams) was tough.

Diamond racked up a 3.54 ERA to go with his 12-9 record through 27 starts last season with the Twins.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Download Canada's top rated newspaper app today
"I love this app, it keeps me up to date with what's going on in the city and around the world." – NB
SOURCE: Based on average rating on the Google Play™ store as of February 11th, 2013 from 1892 ratings compared to all other Canadian newspapers. Google Play is a trademark of Google Inc.
metro

Curling

Canada's Homan splits another two

Canada's Rachel Homan split her games for the second straight day at the world women's curling championship, dropping an 8-4 decision to Sweden on Tuesday night after edging Italy 7-6 earlier in the day.

Sweden's Margaretha Sigfridsson got around a guard with her final throw and knocked Homan's stone from the four-foot ring for the win.

"It was very frustrating to lose that one because we definitely outplayed them," Homan said. "But that happens sometimes, that's curling. You just move on and take the good from that game and keep doing it." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rachel Homan releases a rock as Alison Kreviazuk, left, and Lisa Weagle sweep. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Another feather in Peter Schreyer's hat

ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE

2014 Kia Forte

- **Type.** Four-door, front-wheel-drive compact sedan
- **Engine (hp):** 1.8-litre DOHC I4 (148); 2.0-litre DOHC I4 (173)
- **Transmissions.** Six-speed manual (1.8); six-speed automatic (optional on 1.8, standard on 2.0)
- **Base price (including destination).** $17,500 (estimated)

Design

The Forte's looks for 2014 have been dramatically changed from play-it-safe conservative to fashionably sophisticated. The car contains elements of the Elantra, particularly above the beltline with its dramatically sloping windshield, while the distinctive familial "tiger nose" provides an important point of differentiation. Overall length has increased by about 2.5 centimetres, while the distance between the front and rear wheels has been extended by five centimetres. That stretch pays off in added legroom for front and rear passengers, but a lower roofline means there's a bit less total passenger volume than before.

Good design can't be translated unless the quality and materials are first rate. Kia brings that along in lockstep.

Engine

Also dialed back somewhat is the Forte's power. The new base 1.8-litre engine (also shared with the Elantra) pumps out 148 horsepower and 131 pound-feet of torque, compared with 156 horsepower and 144 pound-feet for the previous base 2.0-litre. The now-optional 2.0-litre four-cylinder (that surprisingly is not on the Elantra sedan's menu) produces 173 horsepower and 154 pound-feet of torque.

Fuel economy

Official fuel-economy stats (a touchy subject for Hyundai/Kia lately, given its recent recanting of fuel economy claims on certain models) have yet to be released, but the numbers for the base 1.8 should be in the 7.0-l/100-km range in the city and about 5.0-5.5 on the highway.

Review. Brush away the designer hype and you still have something special

MALCOLM GUNN
wheelbasemedia.com

Despite being an all-new model for 2010, the Kia Forte never really caught on in a big way. When you look at the numbers now, it really has nowhere to go but up, and with this redesign, that's where this compact is headed.

The new Forte that launches this spring bears the unmistakable influence of design chief Peter Schreyer. For the past six years, the former Audi stylist has been largely responsible for the style of Kia's fleet, as well as those built by its Hyundai parent. With Schreyer's assistance, Hyundai Elantra sales have more than doubled since the 2008 model year, while the Forte, which trails by a considerable margin, has experienced a more modest advance since arriving for 2010. The Forte's platform is shared with the Elantra.

A six-speed manual transmission comes with the 1.8, while a six-speed automatic is optional but standard with the 2.0 along with Kia's "Idle Stop & Go." This piece of new fuel-saving tech shuts off the engine when the Forte is stopped in traffic, then restarts it when the brake pedal is released.

Spending time aboard the Forte will prove comforting for passengers and especially pleasing for the driver who faces an intuitively laid-out dashboard and control panel.

He or she also has command over the level of steering effort with the Forte's optional Flex Steer system. With it, the electric power steering can be adjusted to comfort, normal and sport settings, with the latter offering the least amount of assist.

It looks like a cross between the Rio and the Optima, both of which are now fine automobiles. The Forte is a bit longer than the outgoing model, but also has less base horsepower. That's more likely in the interest of keeping the entry price down rather than in fuel economy.

Of the Forte's two trim levels, the starting-point LX leans to the simpler side of the ledger with its smaller engine, 15-inch steel wheels, basic audio system and the lack of cruise control or a keyless-remote-entry button on the fob.

Move up to the EX and it's a different story. Along with adding the LX's missing items, you can count on dual-zone climate control, a Microsoft-powered infotainment system, backup camera, glove-box cooler and 16-inch alloy wheels. Oh, and the optional 2.0-litre four-cylinder is also an EX staple.

But it's the lengthy option list that can turn the EX into a junior-sized luxury sedan. A navigation system, power sunroof, heated front seats and steering wheel, 10-way power driver's seat, 17-inch wheels and high-intensity-discharge (HID) headlights are all available.

By comparison

1 Ford Focus
Base price: $17,700

2 Nissan Sentra
Base price: $16,550

3 Honda Civic sedan
Base price: $17,000

No need for flannel with Forester's new technology

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

Why is our correspondent driving the 2014 Subaru Forester with two wheels on a roller? Apparently, "it's fun." It was also Subaru's way of showing how cleverly the Forester's AWD system could carry on when both wheels on one side of the vehicle were completely traction deprived. CONTRIBUTED

Some technological shifts take place over decades. Others take longer. We're still waiting, for example, for banking institutions to take less than five business days to clear a local cheque, even though they collectively possess more data transfer technology than the team of international engineers working on the World Space Station.

But let's talk about a technological shift that's more fun — how vehicle off-road technology is evolving from hardware to software.

Before computers crept into vehicles, if you wanted to go up a rugged hill with a 35-degree slope, you needed a squarish Jeep or Land Rover complete with locking differentials and hubs, a set of lower gears, a transfer case to select 4x4 and those lower gears, stiffer and bigger springs, skids plates, and tires so knobby that ground squirrels could live in their grooves for weeks. All manly and beefy stuff.

And the driving itself was equally rugged. Levers had to be pulled with some force. Braking, steering, shifting and gas pedalling all needed to be ratcheted up several notches over normal "on-pavement" standards.

You might step into an off-road vehicle like a highly evolved man or woman, but once fully 4x4 engaged, you would start grunting instead of using your words, shirt material would magically turn to flannel and your shut-down chainsaw would intermittently murmur in anticipation.

But no such transformation took place last week when we had an opportunity to try out the all-new 2014 Subaru Forester and its new-fangled off-road system. To keep Forester as one of the more capable off-roaders in its segment, Subaru updated its AWD system, but not so much with anything meaty and metally — more by making it smarter, through software.

Unlike the previous system, this AWD system talks to the steering wheel, the yaw rate sensor (how the vehicle rotates on its centre axis), and a device that measures transverse acceleration (I only wish I knew how to explain that).

Also new is X-Mode. Hit the X-mode switch on the console and Forester is transformed into a slow-speed off-road rock star (only works under 40 km/hr).

Some of the things it does: makes the throttle easier to feed in small amounts of power when going uphill; makes the throttle easier to more quickly feed in power when traversing rough roads and keeps a lower gear longer with no torque convertor lock-up.

Because the VDC system is already capable of applying brakes and throttle to keep a vehicle from spinning out of control, Subaru uses the functions to give us X-Mode's "Hill Descent" feature. Just point the vehicle down a steep hill and keep your feet off the brakes and throttle. The system automatically brakes and maintains the appropriate speed.

AS EXHILARATING AS IT IS AFFORDABLE.
Every Certified Pre-Owned Mazda we sell comes with warranties and guarantees to ensure that you drive away fully satisfied in a quality vehicle that you can depend on.

0.9% APR‡
SEE DEALER FOR DETAILS

CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED
160-Point Detailed Inspection
7-Year/140,000-Kilometre Limited Powertrain Warranty†
24-Hour Emergency Roadside Assistance
30-Day/3,000-Kilometre Exchange Privilege
CarProof® Vehicle History Report
Zero Deductible
Available Extended Coverage

CRAFTED. ENGINEERED. CERTIFIED. zoom-zoom
mazda

†Coverage begins from the original new retail sale date and covers 7-years/140,000-kilometres, whichever comes first. ‡0.9% APR only for well qualified buyers; not all buyers will qualify. Amount of down payment and other factors may affect qualification. 0.9% APR available on all models and all qualifying model years (the 5 model years immediately preceding the date of this advertisement, or newer) for up to 24-month terms. Based on a representative example of $15,000 financed at 0.9% over 24 months equals monthly payments of $630.88 with $0 down payment, cost of borrowing is $141.03 with a total obligation of $15,141.03. Licence, insurance, taxes, down payment, and, where applicable, PPSA and other dealer charges are extra and may be required at time of purchase. Finance on approved credit for qualified customers only. Offer subject to change without notice. Visit your participating dealer for complete details.

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
As of today, all the pieces of your jigsaw that failed to fit will at last fall into place. You will know who you are, what you want and that surely you will get it.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
You seem to feel guilty about something and with the Sun moving into the most sensitive area of your chart today, it could all get a bit much for you. Get a grip!

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Don't leave people guessing today. Tell them exactly what you mean. Over the next few weeks, you will find it easy to win friends and influence people. So, speak up and when necessary, speak loudly.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
You can and you must pursue your own ambitions, whatever they might be. According to the planets, this is a make or break time as far as your reputation is concerned. Be positive and be ready to move up.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You may find yourself called upon to help someone in need today and, of course, you will assist in any way you can. However, do not — repeat, not — lend them money because chances are you won't see it again.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
If you have fallen out with a friend or family member now is the time to kiss and make up. But make sure any apology you make sounds sincere or you could find yourself in deeper water than before.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Your needs must come first. As the Sun moves into your opposite sign today so partners and colleagues will expect you to do everything for them. Put your foot down right from the start, on their toes if necessary!

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Don't leave anything to chance: Stay on top of work and money matters and make sure you are the only one who can make things happen. If you let others make decisions for you, they may take your power.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
There is excitement in the air. You know that something wonderful is going to happen. And so it is, but don't be too disappointed if it is not quite as wonderful as you expected. It will get better as time goes on.

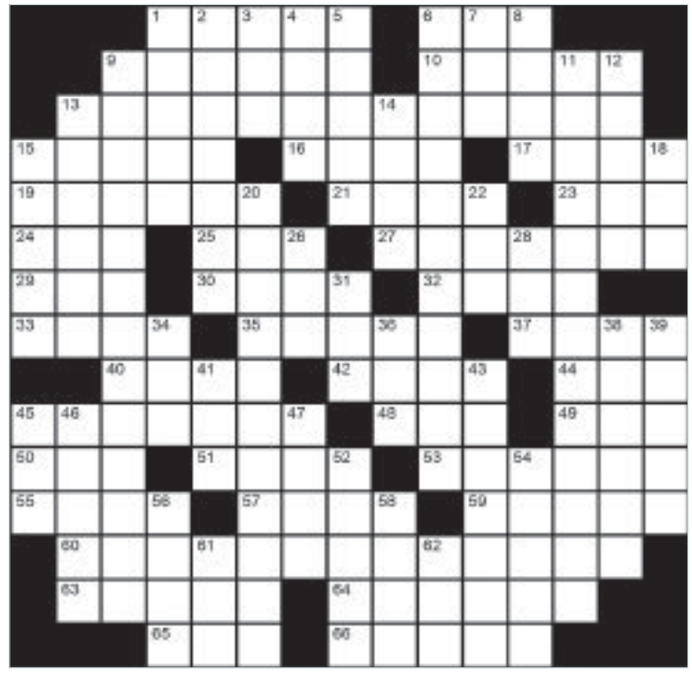
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
There are days when all you want to do is watch the world go by from the safety of your armchair, and this is one of them. Not even a Capricorn can be a mover and shaker all the time.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Your mind may be full of good ideas but how many of them will see the light of day? Too often in the past you have failed to follow up on your insights, but now you must. It's your turn to shine.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
The Sun may be leaving your sign but that does not mean the good times are ending. On the contrary, you will soon enjoy rewards of the efforts you made in recent weeks. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

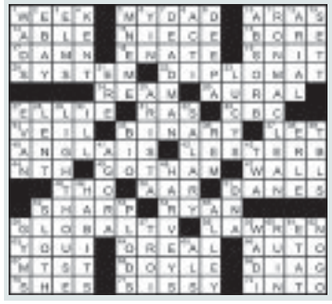
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Salma Hayek movie
6. Dance style
9. Shut
10. Wiseguy, Smart __ [var. sp.]
13. "Wondering Where the Lions Are" singer/songwriter: 2 wds.
15. Erased
16. Knight's heraldic wreath
17. Enjoy a novel
19. Namesakes of Mario's brother in Nintendo games
21. Lunchtime
23. "Law & Order: _ _ _"
24. Assn.
25. Lid's protectee
27. Like the stone of a foot file
29. Fitness system, __ Bo
30. Rosebud, for one
32. Prong
33. Word segment, for short
35. Grassland of South Africa
37. Empire of Peru
40. Ms. O'Grady of "Eight Is Enough"
42. Toward: French
44. Carson Daly's li'l old MTV show
45. Coming into sight: 2 wds.
48. Big Apple toy store, _ _ _ Schwarz
49. Vintage auto
50. Utah's capital [acronym]
51. Cup _' __ (Hot drink, informally)
53. Boorish beings in Jonathan Swift's book Gulliver's Travels
55. North Pole laugh: 2 wds.
57. Village People hit
59. Gets boring
60. One of Queen Elizabeth's royal residences: 2 wds.
63. Fresco-__ (Painting technique)
64. Permeates
65. "Ich bin __ Berliner."
66. Feats

Down
1. Thrown site of the Canadian Pacific Railway's 'Last Spike'
2. Western Canada mountains
3. 'Expert' suffix
4. Design style, Art __
5. Embellish
6. Fast food item for 'to go' customers: 2 wds.
7. Religious robe
8. Fear: French
9. 1885: British Columbia
11. Croissants: 2 wds.
12. Card deck's Jack
13. __-__ and DVD
14. Hoof sound
15. Ink stains
18. Flop
20. Ian's folk duo partner: 2 wds.
22. Acr. for first-last names only people
26. Wide shoe width
28. 'Tortell' ender (Stuffed pasta)
31. Gladiator's 555
34. "Well, __-di-dah!"
36. Word's meaning, for short
38. Elvis flick, "King __" (1958)
39. At _ __ for words
41. Prefix with 'classical'
43. Dishwater bubbles, but just one here: 2 wds.
45. Informally seat theatre-goers
46. Works the land
47. Record deal dreamer's creation, commonly
52. Bitter
54. Detests
56. Irish film of 2006 about two songwriters
58. Pinnacle
61. 601 in ancient Rome
62. Homer's dad on "The Simpsons"

Yesterday's Crossword



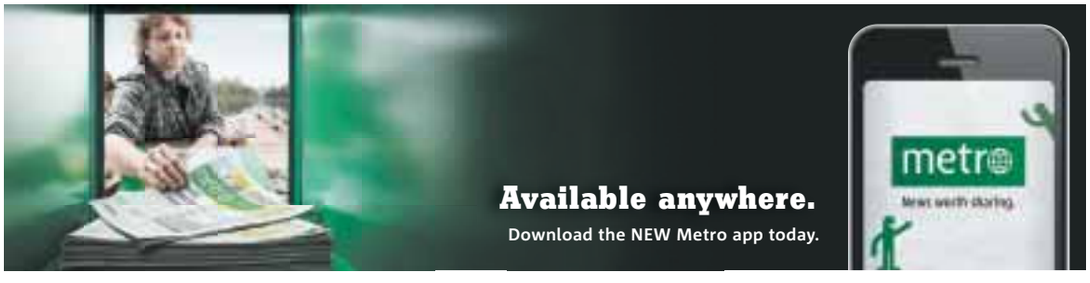
Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

1		8	3		6	2		7
		6	5		1	8		
	5						4	
			9		2			
2								8
			4		8			
	6						8	
		4	8		3	9		
7		1	2		5	4		3

Yesterday's Sudoku

6	2	3	5	4	7	1	8	9
7	4	1	9	3	8	5	6	2
8	9	5	6	1	2	4	3	7
2	5	8	4	6	1	9	7	3
1	3	6	7	9	5	8	2	4
4	7	9	2	8	3	6	1	5
5	6	7	8	2	4	3	9	1
9	1	2	3	5	6	7	4	8
3	8	4	1	7	9	2	5	6



CUT-A-THON 2013 FOR PARKINSON'S

About the Cut-A-Thon for Parkinson's

For only $40 receive a wash, cut and a style from an elite salon in Southwestern Ontario ***PLUS*** a **FREE** gift from JOICO.

SUNDAY, APRIL 7TH
10AM-4PM

TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT VISIT
www.Cutathon.ca
OR CALL US AT
1-888-851-7376

What is Parkinson's?

In every community across Canada this morning, nearly 100,000 people woke up knowing they would experience tremors, slowness, stiffness, impaired balance, difficulty walking, trouble writing, fatigue and weakness.

For a person with Parkinson's, each day can be a struggle with common tasks most of us take for granted. Medication can lessen the symptoms, but there is currently no cure for this debilitating, progressive, chronic neurological condition. One in ten sufferers is diagnosed before the age of forty.

Event Sponsor
JOICO
THE ART OF HEALTHY HAIR

Parkinson Society Southwestern Ontario
Société Parkinson Sud-Ouest de l'Ontario